

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 6 were previously pending. Claims 7 - 9 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1 - 9 are presently pending. Claim 6 is herein currently amended to correct for a typographical error.

I. Claim Rejection -- 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1 - 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S.P. No. 6,269,184 ("Spaulding"). For the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites (among other things) a color reproduction color display apparatus for displaying color reproduction characteristics wherein an association between coordinates of a first color space defining a color on image data and coordinates of a second color space defining a color on an image are defined in accordance with a device for mediating between the image data and the image, the color reproduction characteristic display apparatus comprising: a range designation section for designating a desired coordinate range in said first color space in accordance with an operation; and an image display section for displaying a color reproduction image in which there are plotted coordinate points on said second color space associated with coordinates within the coordinate range designated by the range designation section of coordinates of lattice points wherein the first color space is partitioned as a lattice. At least these features are altogether absent in the prior art relied upon in the grounds of rejection

The grounds of rejection compare Figs. 5A-C and Col. 7, lines 33 - 50 of Spaulding to independent claim 1's recitation of an image display section for displaying a color reproduction

image in which there are plotted coordinate points on the second color space associated with coordinates within the coordinate range designated by the range designation section of coordinates of lattice points wherein the first color space is partitioned as a lattice. In response, it is respectfully asserted that a comparison of the above-recited portions of independent claim 1 to any portion of Spaulding cannot be made because the Spaulding reference is deficient by not disclosing plotted coordinate points on a second color space associated with coordinates within the coordinate range designated by a range designation section of coordinates of lattice points wherein the first color space is partitioned as a lattice.

That is, Spaulding's Figs. 5A-D may show the change of a device-dependent value (CMY) under certain conditions. Figures 5A-D, however, do not display color reproduction characteristics or represent plotted coordinate points on a device-independent color space.

Moreover, independent claim 1 requires an image display section for displaying a color reproduction image, and that the second color space be displayed on the display as plotted coordinate points. While the grounds of rejection compare the previous features of independent claim 1 to Spaulding's Col. 7, lines 33 - 50 and Figs. 5A-D, the comparison is inapposite, as explained below.

Spaulding displays on original input image on a display (*see* Col. 5, lines 45 - 50) and does not display a color *reproduction* image of coordinate points *plotted on a second color space*. Additionally, the closest equivalent to a second color space in Spaulding is output as a printed portion (let alone not being displayed on a display) (*see* Col. 7, lines 19 - 23). Figs. 5A-C and supporting text merely illustrate the nature of transforms by exercising constraints and the

graphs produced are not displayed to a display unit (thus being entirely different from independent claim 1).

Indeed, the overall apparatus of Spaulding is quite different from the present invention. More precisely, Spaulding deals with the problem of attaining the closest color match between two image reproductions, e.g., the closest color match between a print and a monitor (*see* Col. 3, lines 51 - 65). In contrast, the instant invention's apparatus illustrates relationships of coordinate points between two color spaces.

Accordingly, in light of the above, it is respectfully asserted that independent claim 1 recites features that are altogether absent in the prior art relied upon in the grounds of rejection. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection. Additionally, it is respectfully asserted that claims 2 - 5 and 8 depend from claim 1 and are thus themselves patentable by virtue of their dependency.

With further regard to claim 2, this claim describes the image display section optionally displaying the color reproduction image in either two dimensions or three dimensions. The grounds of rejection state that Spaulding discloses these elements in figures 5A - 5C and 6A - 6C.

Figures 5A-C and 6A-C, however, further propagate the differences between the instant invention and Spaulding in that the cited figures are used to illustrate constraining regions of color space wherein "some colors can be reproduced with large color shifts, while others can be reproduced with no perceived color shift at all." (See Col. 8, lines 7 - 8 and 43 - 45.) In contradistinction, the instant invention's apparatus illustrates relationships of coordinate points between two color spaces in either a two-dimensional or three-dimensional basis.

Additionally, the cited figures do not display color reproduction characteristics or correspond to coordinate points in which a desired range of a device-dependent color space is partitioned as a lattice (as claim 2 incorporates these elements by virtue of dependency upon claim 1).

As to claim 3, this claim further recites (among other things) the image display section displaying the color reproduction image and coordinate values on the first color space and coordinate values of the second color space, which correspond to the point on the color reproduction image designated by the display plot designation section. At least these additional features are altogether absent in the prior art relied upon in the grounds of rejection.

The grounds of rejection compare Fig. 3 to the above features of claim 3. This comparison is inapposite, however, in that Fig. 3 and related text provide no description relating to a color reproduction characteristic display.

Additionally as to claim 6, this independent claim is patentable at least for reasons analogous to those reasons finding claim 1 patentable (as claim 6 essentially tracks claim 1, and including the additional features of a “program storage medium”). Furthermore, the grounds of rejection cite Col. 4, lines 49 - 54 and Figure 4 as disclosing all of the features of independent claim 6.

Clearly, however, Figure 4 of Spaulding merely illustrates the process of a constrained mapping of colors and has nothing to do with a color reproduction characteristic display. Moreover, lines 49 - 54 of Col. 4 merely state a processor with a storage medium and has absolutely nothing to do with a color reproduction characteristic display. At least for these additional reasons, claim 6 is averred to possess features altogether absent in the prior art relied

upon in the grounds of rejection. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

II. Claim Rejection -- 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S.P. No. 6,411,304 ("Semba"). For the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 describes an image display section wherein a plurality of color reproduction images associated with a plurality of output devices are displayed on a superposing basis. The grounds of rejection cites to the combination of Spaulding with Semba to arrive at claim 5. More precisely, the Examiner cites to Figure 1 of Semba. However, the outputs of Semba are not superposed. While figure 1 may show a color output for a display and printer, Semba fails to include the requirement of claim 5 that the plurality of color reproduction images associated with a plurality of output devices are displayed on a superposed basis.

Moreover in relation to claim 5, Semba merely shows how color data is converted by certain processing. The Semba reference, however, clearly does not display color reproduction characteristics or correspond to coordinate points in which a desired range of a device-dependent color space is partitioned as a lattice.

Additionally as to claim 5, this claim depends from claim 1. Accordingly, because claim 1 is not rejected under § 103, then claim 5 is respectfully asserted as non-obvious. See M.P.E.P. § 2143.03 ("[i]f an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious"). At least for these additional reasons, it is averred that claim 5 recites features that are altogether absent in the prior art relied upon in the grounds of

rejection. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

III. New Claims 7 - 9

New claim 8 is averred to be patentable at least by virtue of its dependency upon claim 1, in addition to its individual recitation. New independent claim 7 is averred to be patentable at least by virtue of reciting a method wherein a first data file representative of a color profile for a first printing device is developed; a second data file representative of a color profile for a second printing device is developed; and the first data file is displayed on a display superposed with the second data file, thus allowing detailed examination of the color profiles. New claim 9 is averred to be patentable at least by virtue of reciting analogous features to independent claim 1, in addition to reciting the first color space being device-dependent and the second color space being device-independent. Further as to new claim 9, it is pointed out that an example for support of this claim comes from the original specification at page 7, first paragraph, wherein the first color space is represented by CMYK, making it thus device-dependent, and the second color space is represented by $L^*a^*b^*$, making it thus device-independent.

IV. Conclusion

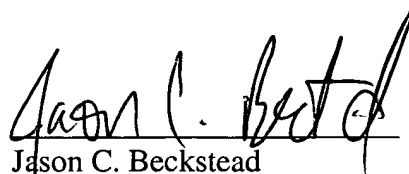
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLICATION No. 09/964,337

Attorney Docket No. Q66004

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason C. Beckstead
Registration No. 48,232

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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